



Dr. Judson A. Rudd, president of Bryan since 1936, sits behind the desk presented to the school for his use by the class of 1954. Dr. Rudd will become President Emeritus on July 1.

DR. RUDD COMPLETES NINETEEN YEARS AS PRESIDENT; ELECTED TO POSITION OF PRESIDENT EMERITUS

In a meeting on March 31, the Board of Trustees of the university by a unanimous vote accepted the resignation of Dr. Judson A. Rudd from the presidency and by a unanimous vote elected him to the post of president emeritus.

Dr. Rudd, president of the university since 1936, began his tenure of service in 1931. A graduate of Ottawa University in 1925, he completed his work for the Master's degree at the University of Kansas in 1926. Prior to his coming to Dayton, he had experience as instructor in the School of Commerce and Business Administration at the University of Alabama. His work at Bryan began in the fall of 1931 when he was made professor of mathematics in the new institution. Serving successively in the administration of the school as treasurer, vice-president and acting president over a period of five years, he was elected to the presidency on August 11, 1936.

In recognition of his outstanding work as a college administrator, the

honorary degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred upon Dr. Rudd by Wheaton College in 1943.

President Rudd's reason for resigning from the position he held for more than two decades was because he believed that "a younger and more aggressive leadership is needed to promote the best interests of the university at this time." An examination by the doctor revealed that he must decrease, rather than increase, his administrative responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has indicated that it will announce a successor for the vacated post in the near future.

Under Dr. Rudd's leadership, the Dayton college has made a splendid reputation for sound academic policies and Christian principles. It has

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Twenty-second annual
COMMENCEMENT
William Jennings Bryan University
Dayton, Tennessee
June 7, 1955

From My Heart To You

President Judson A. Rudd

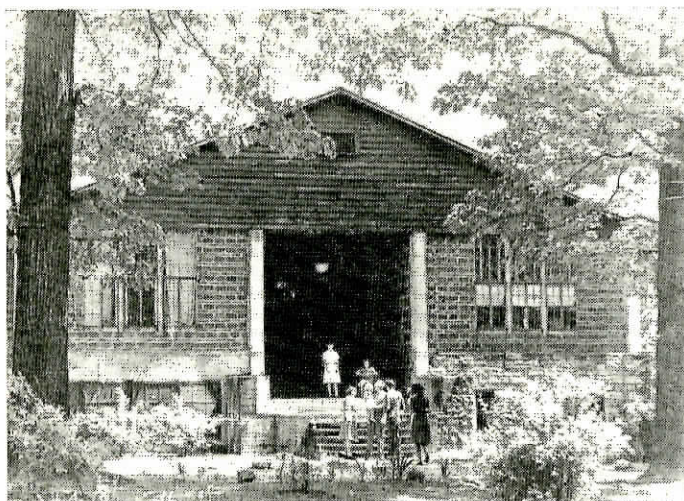
Down on the Alumni Athletic Field our young men are diligently practicing for the track and field meet in which they are to compete. One of the events which especially appeals to my imagination at this time is the relay race. The first man carries the baton over his share of the course with all the speed and spirit he can compact into the time and distance he has to run. At the pace he has chosen, he could not run another lap. His final burst uses up the last bit of strength as he passes into the waiting hand of another the emblem of an unending effort—a continuing race.

In the providence of God, those who ran before me as President of the William Jennings Bryan University did not run long, but they ran well. Little did I realize when I was called upon to follow these great pace-setters that I would carry the standard for this extended distance. The Lord has been most gracious in giving me strength to carry on, and I believe that I can truthfully say that by His help I have run a good race.

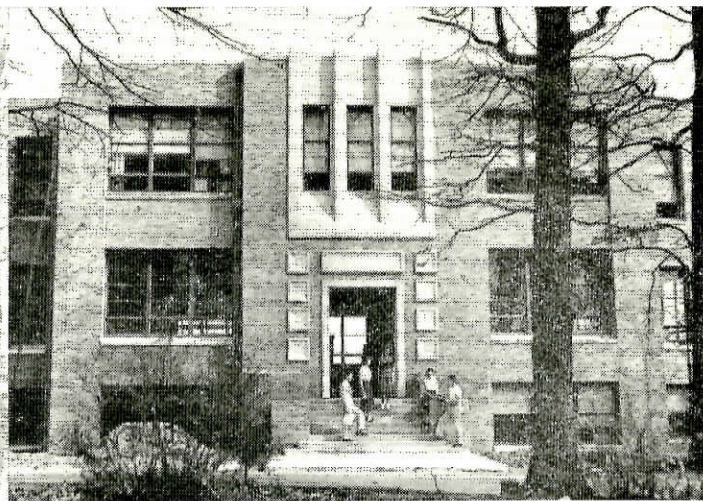
With my election to the position of President Emeritus which is to take effect on July 1 of this year, I will pass on to another this sacred trust. As the university faces the problems of expansion and development during these next few years, I, for one, will be glad to see a fresh contestant carrying the Bryan colors in the meet. It will be my joy to sit in his cheering section! I will pray for him, counsel with him and be of whatever use I can be to him for the prospering of the work and the building up of the body of Christ.

Since changes always create some problems, I would like to ask all the friends of the university to remember us especially in prayer at this time. Pray about the needs of the work. Pray for our students and fac-

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South entrance of the Administration Building is shown as erected in 1938 with temporary roof.



South entrance of the Administration Building appears today with its "new dress."

FOREIGN MISSIONS FELLOWSHIP HOLDS REGIONAL MEETING; STUDENTS HEAR REPRESENTATIVES OF 24 MISSIONS

"Jesus Christ is Lord"—the theme of the annual spring meeting of the Southeastern Regional Foreign Missions Fellowship was followed through with the appropriate theme chorus, "Lord of All." This year the meeting ran from Friday, April 15 to Sunday, April 17 and was again held at the Lake Louise Conference grounds, Toccoa Falls, Georgia.

Representatives of 24 missions were present to answer questions of interested students, friends, and candidates to mission fields and to present their phase of work in films, discussions, and by speaking. Among them were those of the China Inland Mission, the Child Evangelism Fellowship, and the Far East Broadcasting Company, Inc. Approximately

25 Bryan students planned to attend, among whom was Charles Willoughby, vice-chairman of the Southeastern F. M. F. Regional Committee.

Speakers for the conference included Dr. G. Allen Fleece, president of Columbia Bible College; Rev. Donald Hulin, deputation secretary of the Evangelical Alliance Mission; Rev. William P. Green, American deputation secretary, the Alpine Mission to France; and Mr. Gerasimus Zervopoulos of the Greek American Missionary Association, Inc.

SCIENCE ENTHUSIASTS MAKE SMOKY MOUNTAIN TRIP

A field trip for about 20 students of the biological sciences department was conducted April 22-25 to the Smoky Mountains by Miss Lou Rouch and Miss Betty Joy Rankin, instructors in the department.

The four seniors, Louise Kyker, Helen Piper, Harriette Stahnke, and Alice White, who are majoring in biological sciences, used the occasion to make special investigations as review for their seminar examinations next month. For the ornithology class under Miss Rankin's instruction, the field trip provided opportunity for examining the habitat of the particular varieties of birds found in that section. Miss Rouch directed students from her botany class in an exploration to determine the relationship of vegetation changes to the changes in altitude and the accompanying variations in temperature and moisture.

RUDD BECOMES PRES. EMERITUS (Continued from page 1)

grown from an enrollment of 70 to 265 this year. Although its buildings were barely started at the beginning of the depression years, the university now has plant and equipment worth over a million dollars at today's values. Without denominational backing and endowment, the work of the college that is "definitely Christian and spiritual" has challenged people of all faiths to contribute in support over \$100,000 annually for the past three years for buildings and operations. It now employs over thirty full time faculty and staff members and operates on an annual budget of \$260,000.

The university today offers the Bachelor of Arts degree in Bible, Christian Education, English, history, music, French, Greek, and Spanish, and the Bachelor of Science degree in biology, mathematics and zoology. Related courses are offered in teacher education, psychology, philosophy, chemistry, physics, German, Hebrew and linguistics.

A recent grant enabled the school to reach its objective of enclosing the spacious and beautiful administration building during the 25th anniversary year.

In offering his resignation, Dr. Rudd has indicated that freedom from administrative burdens will enable him to represent the school more effectively and he hopes to see the work expand and develop even more under the new arrangement. He expects to be available for conference appointments by the fall of the year.

Bryan Hears Two April Concerts

Theodore Mamlock, concertmaster of the Chattanooga Symphony Orchestra, presented a violin concert in the Bryan chapel, Tuesday, April 12. He was accompanied by Peter Rickett, assistant conductor of the Chattanooga Symphony.

The program included George Frederick Handel's "Sonata No. 4 in D Major," and compositions by Beethoven, Paganini, Mozart, and others. Mr. Mamlock has received high commendation for his ability as a violinist from Yehudi Menuhin.

Also scheduled for an April concert is harpist Miss Mary Spalding, who will display her musicianship Friday, April 29.

ON THE STUDY OF HISTORY

By Morton Brown

One of the privileges of the child of God is to think God's thoughts after Him. "Who hath known the mind of the Lord?" the apostle asks



the Corinthians. Then he answers his own question: "But we have the mind of Christ" (I Corinthians 2:16).

We do indeed have the mind of Christ, if we are spiritual. But we do not, as the apostle is at pains to warn the Corinthians, we are unspiritual or merely natural. It has been my occasional observation, during the twelve years that I have been a Christian, that we who profess Christ can be very subjective in our evaluation of things. We are biased in favor of ourselves. Here is a characteristic line of reasoning: (a) I was converted twelve years ago at such-and-such a place. (b) The New Testament says, "But we have the mind of Christ." Therefore (c) I have the mind of Christ. The fallacy of this line of reasoning often escapes us. A question needs to be intruded between (b) and (c), a question which may be phrased like this: Do I meet the qualifications (not guaranteed in an experience which I had twelve years ago) for having the mind of Christ? We "feel" we do, and the Scripture passage seems to assure us. But do we?

Our spiritual condition depends upon hard reality, not upon our feelings. It depends upon our obedience to truth. We must know the truth and our wills must submit to it. Christ is the Truth, and since He is, He is in harmony with all truth, both natural and supernatural. I am presenting some thoughts about the study of history, and in doing this I want to make it plain that I do not think that the study of historical truth will lead a person to Christ. The Savior of men is to be known through a different kind of search, a search conducted on a different level from the search for historical truth and one in which He is the seeker more than we. The study of history, however, may provide a kind of check on our experience. Since all truth is God's truth,

our response to truth on any level is, to the extent that such truth is significant, a useful test of our commitment to Christ.

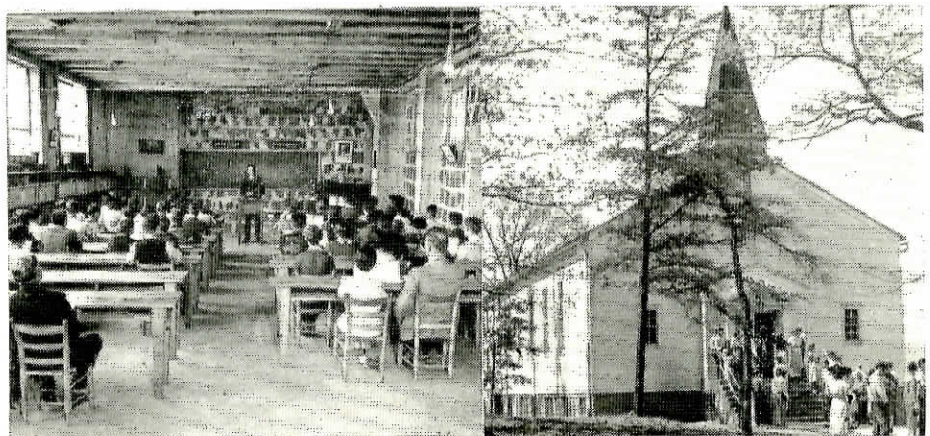
One of the most valuable uses of history is to rock us out of our complacency. This is America's century; and the sense of having arrived at something very much like the goal of history, or at least of being the only ones who know the way to the goal, is a characteristic of a people in its golden age. It would not be surprising if this over-confidence infected not only Americans in general but the Church in America. Truth on the level of historical fact is a matter of continual change. Nothing in the world of history is permanent, not even the primacy of the United States. The Word has already said, "All flesh is like grass"; but historical perspective dramatizes this truth with a sharpness which we need in a day when flesh is fine and durable. It would be easy to disqualify ourselves from thinking the thoughts of Him who has marked out the appointed periods of the nations and the limits of their settlements (Acts 17:26).

The study of history, then, can help us see in true perspective the drama of humanity. Since man is a fallen creature the drama invariably assumes the form of tragedy, and in watching this tragedy we may experience a certain clearing of the emotions and of the mind. Aristotle defined tragedy as "an imitation of an action that is serious, complete, and of a certain magnitude. . . through pity and fear effecting the proper purgation of these emotions" (*Poetics*,

vi:2). He is saying that the understanding of dramatic tragedy can bring relief from private emotions. Similarly, the study of history can rescue us from the trap of subjectivity. We are so prone to prefer our own brands. My little girl is cuter than the neighbors' little girl because she is my little girl. My views on democracy and capitalism are the only sound views to have on these issues because they are my views. My church is finer and more spiritual than another because it is my church. My set of doctrines is the total truth about God's plan for the ages because it is what I believe. Now I realize that some serious reasons can be marshalled to demonstrate the superiority of my little girl, and my political outlook, and my church, and my doctrines: the child sings like a four-year-old (she is three), individualism rather than collectivism has made America great, the church dips its members in the apostolic manner, and the doctrines are all plainly referred to in the Bible. Does this earnest rationalization suffice? The fact remains that I am prejudiced.

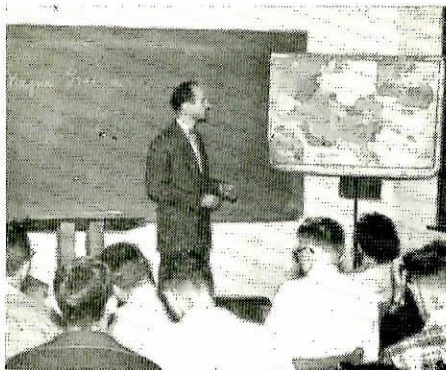
Dr. Eugene Nida of the American Bible Society, in his recent book **Customs and Cultures**, (published by Harper & Brothers), calls attention to the need of a broad world-view in our approach to people with cultural backgrounds different from ours. We need to realize that very often our pattern of conduct is simply an expression of twentieth-century

(Continued on page 4)



Dr. Rudd is pictured as he addressed a chapel service in 1936. The auditorium was then on the first floor of the main building.

The present chapel structure was erected on Bryan Hill in 1948. The men's dormitory on the first floor will some day accommodate music practice rooms.



Professor Brown helps his students relive the ancient days through informative history lectures.

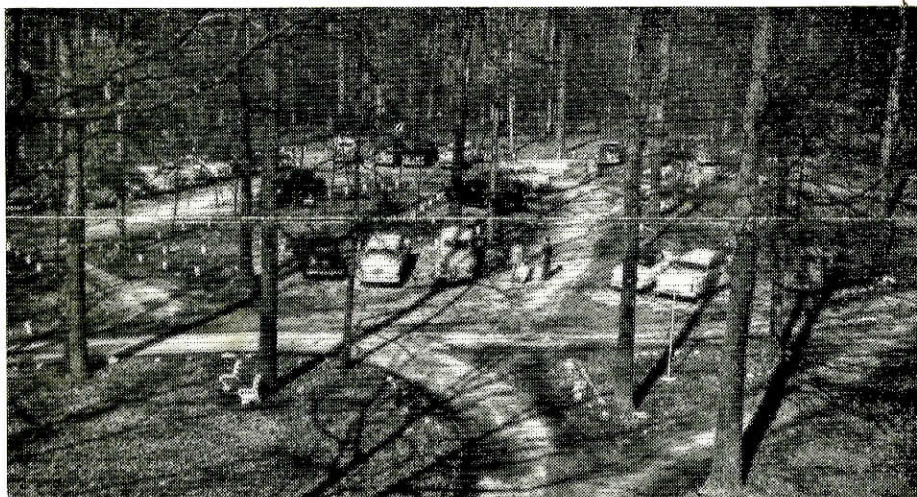
ON THE STUDY OF HISTORY

(Continued from page 3)

Western Civilization and not something true and valuable under all circumstances. In some places of the world it is considered lewd to point with the forefinger. There are people who consider it insulting to be handed an object with one hand, as one gives to a dog. The practice of placing flowers on a grave seems to some to be ridiculous (but they may carry food there instead!). In northern Congo the elders of a Christian church rejected the missionary's suggestion that the women cover themselves with blouses, since only prostitutes dress like that in their locality. Dr. Nida offers this warning: "It is not primarily the message but

the messenger of Christianity that provides the greatest problems for the average non-Christian. Fortunately, the missionary who shouts at 'natives' as he would at a dog and who by threatening corporal punishment forces the people to build chapels and to till the soil is the exception to the rule; but those well-intentioned victims of a superiority complex who exude a holier-than-thou condescension full of paternalistic piety still delude themselves into thinking that their task is to work for people rather than **with** them. Their unsuspected self-righteousness and their identification of Western culture with Christianity keeps them from spiritual comradeship. They remain foreign, not only in the outward phases of race and culture, but also in the inward emotional responses."

We need to see our own culture in perspective, in a sense to step out of it and look at it with foreign eyes, in order to understand the people all over the world whom we claim to desire to win to a knowledge of Christ. Similarly, a long look may help us understand the timelessness of the faith for which we should contend. We need to beware of setting up "truth" which is merely arbitrary, local, or provincial. We need to underscore the great historical doctrines of Christianity and to de-emphasize the points which make us sectarian and parochial.



The removal of the "Pavilion," an old Bryan landmark past usefulness, has made way for a parking lot to accommodate the increasing number of student and staff cars.

There is an important spiritual reason for de-emphasizing the sectarian and the strictly contemporary. One of the prominent truths of the New Testament is the unity of the Church of Jesus Christ. "For in one Spirit were we all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether bond or free. . ." (I Corinthians 12:13). I want to keep in fellowship with Brother Augustine, although I disagree with his conception of the visible church. I want to keep in fellowship with Brother Martin Luther, who said that the banking business was Germany's greatest misfortune; and with Brother John Wesley, who said that the American desire for liberty in 1776 was the glorious fault of devils. To maintain fellowship with God's people I need not agree with error; I need rather to discern the great truth of the unity of Christ's body to remember that I too may be mistaken and that Christian fellowship does not depend upon our sectarian formulas but upon our living union with the Christ.

I have suggested in this little essay that the study of history may help us keep in perspective two important issues, world power and Christian fellowship. In the midst of the inflationary tendencies of the mid-twentieth century—tendencies encouraged by our being on top of the world of political power and our having a most elaborate interpretation of God's plan for the ages—the study of history cuts us down to normal human size. And any humbling experience is worthwhile.

FROM MY HEART TO YOU

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ulty. Pray for the trustees. As we thus share in the effort, I am certain that we shall share together in the reward when the race is won and the victor is crowned.

March Gift Income

Operating Fund	\$1,946.91
Plant Fund	2,294.85
Total	4,241.76

CHRIST ABOVE ALL

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